



UNCLASSIFIED



House Armed Services Committee

DAILY SUMMARY – OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

Current as of 11:00 a.m. EST April 3, 2003

Significant Events in Last 24 Hours

- U.S. Central Command spokesman states that coalition forces are in a “deliberate advance” toward Baghdad, with the 3rd Infantry Division and the 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade conducting a two-pronged attack toward the city.
- Special Operations forces raided the Thar Thar presidential palace, a known residence of Saddam, some 56 miles south of Baghdad. The forces secured some Iraqi documents and departed.
- U.S. forces lost one F/A-18C Hornet fighter over Iraq, possibly to an Iraqi surface-to-air missile. A U.S. Army UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter was shot down by small arms fire near Karbala killing six or seven Americans.

Iraqi Forces Update

- The Republican Guard Medina and Baghdad Divisions defending south of Baghdad have been rendered combat ineffective by U.S. air and ground attacks and are offering only sporadic resistance as U.S. forces advance toward Baghdad.
- Reports indicate that the Republican Guard Al Nida Division remains in positions east of Baghdad, but has come under heavy attack by coalition air strikes over the past two days in anticipation of a U.S. ground attack.
- U.S. military officials believe that the Republican Guard's Hammurabi Division is still attempting to move south to reinforce the remnants of the devastated Medina Division.

